



Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

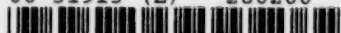
S/2000/158
28 February 2000
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

LETTER DATED 25 FEBRUARY 2000 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF
PORTUGAL TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to bring to your attention the statement on recent events in the town of Mitrovica issued on 23 February 2000 by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the European Union (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) António MONTEIRO
Permanent Representative of Portugal
to the United Nations



Annex

[Original: English and French]

Statement on recent events in the town of Mitrovica
issued on 23 February 2000 by the Presidency of the
European Union on behalf of the European Union

The European Union, deeply concerned by the recent events in the town of Mitrovica, reiterates its strong condemnation of all acts of violence and public disturbances.

The European Union stresses its full support for Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) and its commitment to a multi-ethnic and undivided Kosovo, where all the inhabitants can live in a safe and secure environment regardless of their ethnic background.

The European Union reaffirms its support for the efforts of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo and the Kosovo Force (KFOR) in the implementation of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999), carried out under the most difficult conditions. Defiance and threats to the international presence in Kosovo will not be tolerated.

Kosovo is benefiting from a substantial investment aimed at creating conditions for a peaceful and sustainable future. The political, military and financial efforts committed by the international community for the stabilization of Kosovo demand from all Kosovar citizens active cooperation towards reconciliation. The leaders of the different communities should make this message clear to the population.

Finally, the European Union urges the political leaders in Kosovo to exert their influence to stop violence and to play a restraining role in order to avoid the spread of disorder. The European Union will hold them responsible for any further spread of violence. Their continuous constructive attitude is paramount to the shaping of a peaceful and multi-ethnic Kosovo.
